### MESSAGE

FROM THE

## PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

### INFORMATION IN RELATION

TO THE

# Western Boundary Line

OF THE

## TERRITORY OF ARKANSAS.

FEBRUARY 23, 1824.

Read: Ordered that it lie upon the table.

WASHINGTON:

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1824.

The articles in the formula of  To the House of Representatives of the United States:

Agreeably to a resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 11th instant, requesting the President of the United States "to inform this House, if the line intended to constitute the western boundary of the territory of Arkansas, has been run, in conformity with the provisions of the third section of the act of Congress, of the 3d March, 1823, entitled 'An act making further appropriations for the military service of the United States, for the year 1823, and for other purposes;' and if said line has not been run, that he inform this House what instructions have been given, or measures adopted, in relation to the execution of the provision of the law, and what causes have prevented said line from being run," I herewith transmit a report from the Secretary of War, which contains the information required.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, 23d February, 1824.

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#### DEPARTMENT OF WAR,

February 13, 1824.

The Secretary of War, to whom was referred the resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 11th instant, requesting the President of the United States "to inform this House, if the line intended to constitute the western boundary of the Territory of Arkansas, has been run, in conformity with the provisious of the third section of the act of Congress, of the 3d March, 1823, entitled 'An act making further appropriations for the military service of the United States, for the year 1823, and for other purposes;' and if said line has not been run, that he inform this House what instructions have been given, or measures adopted, in relation to the execution of the provision of the law, and what causes have prevented said line from being run," has the honor to state, that the line referred to by the resolution of the House, has not been run. Shortly after the termination of the last session of Congress, General Thomas Hinds, of Mississippi, and Mr. William Woodward, of the Arkansas Territory, were appointed commissioners to hold a treaty with the Choctaw Indians, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provision of the act abovementioned; and communications were addressed to them by this Department, notifying them of their appointment, and enclosing instructions for their government. The communication for General Hinds. (who was directed to make the principal arrangements for the treaty,) it appears, never reached him, owing to some failure of the mails, or other cause, unknown to this Department; that for Mr. Woodward was received by him, of which, however, the Department has only been apprised since the meeting of Congress. Owing to these causes. the proposed treaty with the Choctaws was not held; and, consequently, the line, which depended on the arrangement to be made by the treaty, could not be run.

It may be proper to state, that the Choctaw nation has applied for permission to send on a deputation to Washington, (the object of which is stated to be, to treat with the Government on the subject of their lands west of the Mississippi,) which has been granted; and it is hoped that a suitable arrangement may be made, so that the line may be run the next summer.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. CALHOUN.

To the PRESIDENT of the United States.

